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Sheikh Abdullah calls

Mrs. Gandhi a dictator

Jammu, (UNI) - Sheikh Abdullah, Chief Minister of the controversial north Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir, recently described the reported remarks of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi during her one-day tour of the Jammu region as those of a 'dictator'.

Addressing a public meeting at Akhnoor 40 km from here on April 8, he referred to Mrs. Gandhi's remark that she could dismiss the non-Congress-I State Governments in half an hour and stop financial assistance to them, if the Central Government wanted to topple it. Would it be a democracy where the Prime Minister of the country dismissed duly elected governments like this, he asked.

As regards financial assistance, every State had the right to get its share from the Centre, he said.

He criticised Mrs. Gandhi for saying that the minorities were not safe in Jammu and Kashmir. The majority community in Kashmir had always sacrificed for the minority community, he asserted.

The Sheikh claimed that Jammu and Kashmir was a symbol of secularism whereas in other parts of the country like Moradabad and Aligarh communal incidents kept on taking place.

Without naming anyone, he said that power should not go to the head as, in a democratic country people could change the government. This had happened in 1977 when the Janata leaders fought among themselves and people voted them out.

He said the Sikri Commission appointed by the State Government to look into regional disparities had in its report clearly indicated that the people of the minority community were not being discriminated against.

The Sheikh said 'I have great respect for Mrs. Gandhi and was extremely hurt by her remarks.'

Mrs. Gandhi resents

Pak bid for the bomb

New Delhi, (UNI) - Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared in Parliament on Thursday, April 9, that India would "respond in an appropriate way" to Pakistan's attempts to acquire nuclear weapons.

"It should be clearly understood", Mrs Gandhi said, "that Pakistan's development of nuclear weapons would have grave and irreversible consequences on our sub-continent. We have kept our eyes and ears open".

Officially, she said, Pakistan had denied that it was planning to produce nuclear weapons. But those denials had not allayed the fears and suspicions anywhere in the world.

Mrs. Gandhi, who was replying to the debate on the Defence Ministry's budgetary demands, noted, however, that India's own policy had been to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes "and we crusade for the total banning of all nuclear weapons".

Developments in Afghanistan, she said, had given an excuse to Pakistan to demand more arms, and to other countries to supply them. "Now Pakistan's defence seems once again to be becoming part of a large strategic alignment", she said. This was what worried India, Mrs. Gandhi noted. But response of the US would be known by its actions.

Mrs. Gandhi warned that the international situation had never been grimmer than it was today. She said this was not only her assessment but that of scores of world leaders from five continents whom she had met in the past one year.

The focus of the cold war had shifted from Europe to Indian Ocean littoral states. "Our south-west and south-east Asian flanks are flash points," since new armaments were being piled up in this region...not only around the Indian Ocean but in a number of inland countries.

The Indian Prime Minister said the policy of militarisation of this region for alleged containment of 'expansionism' of one big power by the other was counter-productive. It would virtually prevent a politically-negotiated settlement in Afghanistan, nor would it bring peace to the Gulf and south-west Asian region.

Reiterating India's desire for friendship with Pakistan, Mrs. Gandhi said External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao would visit Pakistan in pursuance of the government's patient approach to normalise relations with it in terms of the Simla agreement.

If US supply stops

India to reprocess N-fuel

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian Government has made it clear that it reserves the right to the spent fuel at Tarapur nuclear plant.

With the United States Administration showing less interest in honouring its commitments to supply nuclear fuel to Tarapur, India would reprocess it for future needs of the plant.

The Americans have been arguing that the spent fuel from Tarapur belongs to them. In this way, they seem to have decided to go back to their 30-year agreement for supplying fuel to the plant, with yet another 12 years to go, Foreign Office Spokesman said here.

While a breakdown of the agreement would lead to a setback in Indo-US relations, it is not likely to make any difference to the working of the Tarapur Plant. Indian nuclear scientists have attained such a high level of expertise that US refusal to fulfill its obligations would not cause insuperable problems.

There have been many delays in the past in the supply of enriched uranium from the US. The first was a 20-week delay in 1975. There was then a much longer delay of 100 weeks. The longest delay has been one of 104 weeks.

One shipment from the US has been long overdue and an application for another was forwarded in September, 1980. But the Indian Government, according to the Spokesman, has not received any confirmation either about these two shipments or about the future of the programme.

The 1963 US-India Cooperation Agreement states that no spent fuel of US origin can be reprocessed without a joint Indo-US determination. But the US, the spokesman said, had, by persistent delays, broken the agreement.

June launching

For first communication satellite

New Delhi, (UNI) - India's first experimental communication satellite will be launched from the French Space Centre near Kourou in the French Guyana on June 16 this year.

Originally scheduled for March, the launching was postponed last December because of some hitch in the injection system of the European Launch Vehicle, Ariana which was to take APPLE (Ariana Passenger Payload Experiment) to the sky.

The 650-kg satellite, APPLE which has been designed and developed under the direction of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), will be put into geo-stationary orbit by the European Space Agency's rocket Ariane.

The design and development of APPLE was considered a major step towards using the latest technology of modular spacecraft structures with three-axis body stabilisation. Its life is estimated at two years.

This satellite will be available for experiments by Indian users for two years. Among the users are ISRO, the Posts and Telegraphs department, Television, Radio, Universities and institutes of technology. During this period, the Space Application Centre at Ahmedabad (Gujarat) will also conduct various communication experiments.

The APPLE has been built basically to help India acquire competence in the utilisation of geo-stationary satellite for domestic communications on an experimental basis in continuance of the STEP (Satellite Telecommunication Experiment Projects).

Incorporating latest techniques like multilayered insulation and analytical modelling, APPLE would help bridge the technological gap between the Indian satellites launched so far and the future class of the satellites to come.

Besides continuing the experiments through the STEP, APPLE would take on new experiments in fields like digital communication technology and aspects with a "softer angle" like teacher training and remote area communication.

The telemetry tracking and command of APPLE would be done through the ISRO network stations at Sri Hari (SHAR) and Ahmedabad.

Kashmir: original human home

Srinagar, (UNI) - Recent archaeological excavations in Pahalgam in Kashmir, India, have revealed that man had first appeared in this picturesque area, according to the Centre of Asian Studies of Kashmir University.

Prof S. Maqbool, Director of the Centre, said here that a massive crude axe had been found in Pahalgam where a glacier is believed to have terminated during the first ice age. Glaciation had occurred in the region several times subsequently, he said.

Prof. Maqbool quoted the discoverer, Dr. H.D. Sankalia, as having recorded that it was some time during the first interglacial period, when according to glacio-geological studies the Lake (Kashmir Valley) had been drained off, that the first man had appeared in Kashmir.

Farm prosperity

Spurs women's education

New Delhi, (UNI) - The number of Indian women going in for college education is largest in the southern State of Kerala. Here, 45.5 per cent of all students continuing into higher education are women.

Kerala has consistently recorded the highest percentage in women's education and literacy since the past five years. However, it is in the North Indian State of Punjab, which underwent major agricultural changes subsequent to the 'green revolution, that the changing approach towards women's education is reflected. Punjab today has even surpassed Delhi in the pace of women's education and occupies the second place, next only to Kerala.

A cursory observation indicates that general prosperity has led to an education revolution in Punjab where even villages have been clamouring for colleges and for exclusively women's colleges. Affluent farmers have been coming forth with offers of funds. As a result, a large number of women's colleges have sprung up in the countryside and semi-rural areas.

Women in these colleges are also moving away from traditional courses for women like arts and home science. Instead, enrolment of women in commerce and technological courses is on the increase. From 2.5 per cent in 1970, the percentage of women opting for these courses has gone up to 13.2 per cent. Professional faculties like agriculture, veterinary science and law are also attracting a large number of women. These trends also point towards an urge to render women's education more relevant.

Window on Bangladesh

[From a Special Correspondent in Dacca]

Revelations at court martial:

An interesting feature of the trial of three men of the Bangladesh Armed Forces and two civilians charged with plotting a coup on June 17 last year, which proved abortive, is that the accused-turned-approver, Lt. Col. Abdul Aziz Pasha has involved, in his disposition, a number of persons connected with the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman.

Major Dalim, Noor, Huda, Shariar Farook and Rashid are some of those Pasha has implicated in his disposition. Many of them have been holding diplomatic assignments. All of them, Pasha said, had discussed the forming of a political party while carrying on their underground activities with the help of the members of the Armed Forces.

The trial, began by a military court in Dacca Cantonment recently has also been taken to the Dacca High Court, where the legality of court martial of the two civilians has been challenged.

The trial, meanwhile, is seen variously by various people in the country. While the influential Dacca weekly "Holiday" calls it "curiously coincidental with the projected return of Mujib's daughter Hasina Wajed Sheik to the country, opposition parties and other organisations representing freedom fighters see it as an attack on the freedom fighters.

Polar satellite

New Delhi, (UNI) - India would develop the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) using various technological capabilities in solid and liquid propulsion systems as well as other launch vehicle systems gained by ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation), Prime Minister Indira Gandhi told Parliament.

Mrs. Gandhi said various studies had been conducted to optimise the vehicle configuration was likely to consist of a solid propellant booster, a second stage having a liquid engine and upper stages with high performance solid motors.

Studies on various technical aspects and designs were in progress.

Mrs. Gandhi said work was initiated much earlier on long-lead time activities. This included finalisation of contracts with Indian industries in 1979 and 1980 for production of the required liquid propellants.

Augmentation of solid propellant production facilities began in 1980. Work started early this year to set up the required solid motor static testing facilities for PSLV, she added.

The Prime Minister said sites had been selected for the establishment of various test facilities.

EXPORT PRICE OF INDIAN ONIONS FOR GULF PORTS REDUCED

New Delhi, (UNI) - The minimum export price of Indian onions for the Arabian Gulf ports has been reduced from 240.63 dollars to 212.50 dollars.

This reduction has been made to boost Indian exports in view of the increased production in the country. India has also been facing tough competition from several countries in West Asia.

Rao on stranded Indians

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, told Parliament recently that during his visit to Baghdad, he would take the opportunity to find out more details about the Indian seamen stranded at Basra port since the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Mr. Rao left recently as a member of the non-aligned ministers' group for Baghdad on Iran-Iraq conflict. Though the group was going on a different purpose, Mr. Rao said that he would find out the exact position of the Indian seamen and report to Parliament after his return.

The Indian seamen were left stranded at Basra port aboard 22 vessels when the Iran-Iraq conflict began seven months ago. They have been seeking a passage to India.

Mr. Rao said that 68 of the 400 seamen have been repatriated to India and 110 more were on their way here. All others wanting to return would be brought back at the Indian Government's expense. Specific instructions have been issued to the Indian Consul at Basra in this regard, Mr. Rao said.

Rao may visit Pak

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian External Affairs Minister, Narasimha Rao, who is currently in Teheran with the non-aligned Foreign Ministers contact group for Iran and Iraq, is due to visit Pakistan shortly.

No dates have been fixed, but the External Affairs Ministry spokesman told reporters that the visit would take place in the "foreseeable future". Pressed to indicate the possible dates, he said it was not a matter of months.

Mr. Rao's visit will be in the nature of a return visit. The Pakistan Foreign Minister, Agha Shahi, was here in July last and it is now the Indian Minister's turn to visit Pakistan.

The spokesman said the visit was part of the continuing dialogue between Islamabad and New Delhi and in pursuit of the two countries' desire to implement the Simla accord. He was hopeful that the visit would yield mutually beneficial results.

Asked if the question of large-scale arms induction into Pakistan would figure in Mr. Rao's discussions in Islamabad, the spokesman said it inevitably would. Such a phenomenon was of interest not only to India but also to the countries of the region, he said.

Touts helping illegal immigrants

New Delhi, (UNI) - In the months of May and September, a large number of Bangladesh nationals crossed the border and drift into the Indian Territory for permanent settlement.

The drift is made easy by touts who charge a minimum sum for helping the Bangladeshis wishing to cross over to India in search of either temporary or permanent settlement. The Indian Border Security Force recently listed over 18 touts involved in the racket.

Most of the Bangladeshis prefer to enter the North-eastern State of Assam, even as the students leaders of that State are agitating for the deportation of foreigners.

The infiltrators, who enter Tripura and West Bengal, find no jobs and eventually go to Assam. Thus, they have swelled the number of foreigners in that State.

The Government is, in the meantime, considering measures that should be taken to prevent infiltration.

Constructing wire fences and walls along certain vulnerable stretches of the border, would be taken up by the Home Ministry soon.

Some officials who served the Border Security Force favour the creation of a "no-man's land" along the border by vacating Indian Villages which have a large number of Bangladeshi infiltrators.

The barriers and the creation of a "no-man's land" is, however, not viewed favourably by the Indian authorities in the light of the United States' experience along its Mexican border.

Indian fair success

New Delhi, (UNI) - Bangladesh has sought India's assistance in setting up small-scale industries in a big way. It has also shown keenness to import Indian engineering technology for setting up of consumer goods industries, both in the small and large scale sectors.

With the improvement of economic co-operation climate between the two countries, it is hoped that engineering goods exports to Bangladesh will double in the near future.

While addressing a press conference after a very successful exhibition of Indian engineering skills in Dacca, President of Indian Engineering Association (AIEI) Mr. Manmohan Singh, said that the eight-day fair fetched massive orders. In fact more than 50 per cent exhibits were sold on the spot.

The area which attracted maximum attention was the Bangladesh's interest in the small-scale sector. Mr. Kanan, Director, National Small Scale Industries Corporation (NSIC), who represented the sector said during the fair 800 enquiries were generated for setting up small-scale units. In fact an understanding between NSIC and its Bangladesh counterpart has already been reached to set up four pilot projects for the manufacture of hand-made paper, matches, domestic electric cables and fractional horse power motors.

Referring to the success of the fair, Manmohan Singh said as this was the first fair ever to be held in Bangladesh by India, it generated great interest about Indian technology. At least 10,000 people daily visited the fiar. Several participants, booked spot orders and the Bangladesh government issued immediate import licences for the realisation of these orders.

Afghan nurses

Deffection attempted

New Delhi, (UNI) - Two young Afghan trainee-nurses -- Miss Safoora Nabizada and Miss Mary Loori -- attached to the School of Nursing, Army Hospital, Delhi Cantonment, who had mysteriously disappeared recently have been tracked down, reports Hindustan Times, a leading English daily here.

The two Afghan nationals had come to India in a batch of eight trainee-nurses in December 1978, for three years' training at the Army School of Nursing as part of a "study programme."

Recently, the two nurses disappeared from the Army Hospital leaving their baggage in their rooms. Their description and passport numbers were flashed to airports by the Intelligence Bureau's FRRO section.

The passports were valid.

Inquiries revealed that the two nurses had gone to the UNO office here posing as Afghan refugees. They secured scholarships of 52 dollars per month, each, and declared their intention to defect to the United States.

While the Government agencies after informing the Afghanistan Embassy, had intensified the search for them, one of the nurses got admitted to Mool Chand Hospital as a "heart patient."

The nurse, Miss Nabizada (22) was admitted on March 18 and discharged on March 25.

The authorities are tight-lipped and secretive about the Afghan nurses. The nurses wanted to go to the United States with the UNO's help, it is believed.

Goans mi... the Gulf

Panaji(Goa).(UNI) - The popilation in the Union Territory of Goa has increased over the last decade. This increase is as much as in the bordering state of Karnataka (26 per cent). But what is significant is that the rise in population has been registered despite the fact that a large number immigrate to the Gulf countries seeking jobs. During this period, the Indian Government issued 50,000 passports to Goans seeking jobs in the Gulf countries.

According to the recent census, most of the male workers in the Union Territory of Goa who immigrated to the Gulf were from the talukas (administrative unit of a district) of Bardaz, Pernem and Salcete. The tiny districts of Daman and

Data reception

From sat...

New Delhi, (UNI) - Following satisfactory realisation of their objectives, the operations relating to the data reception from India's first two satellites, Aryabhata and Bhaskara, have been turned off, according to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Aryabhata, India's first satellite, was launched on April 19, 1975, by a Soviet intercosmos vehicle, and has been functioning in orbit for almost six years.

Aryabhata's primary mission was to acquire the ability for designing, fabricating and launching a space satellite and operate it for a long time. This mission was fulfilled in the first six months of the satellite's orbit with the performance onboard. The scientific experiments, however, functioned only for five days due to some hitch in the power system soon after the launch. But the performance of telemetry, tracking and telecommand systems as well as sensor measurements of the orientation of the satellite were successful.

The satisfactory performance of India's first satellite provided useful inputs for the design of the second satellite, Bhaskara. Bhaskara was hurled into space on June 7, 1979 from a

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Goans migrate to the Gulf

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According to the recent census, most of the male workers in the Union Territory of Goa who immigrated to the Gulf were from the talukas (administrative units of a district) of Bardez, Pernem and Salcete. The tiny districts of Daman and Diu are also known for their labour export to the Gulf countries.

Every third person in the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu is town dweller. This is the result of a rapid urbanisation witnessed by the territory over the years.

The trend towards urbanisation is now posing serious problems to the administration. The pressure on the towns is becoming tremendous and the administration is taking all possible steps to discourage rural people from settling in the towns.

Some of these steps include establishing of industrial estates and an industrial training institute in each administrative unit of the districts. Satellite towns are to be developed around Panjim (the territory's capital) and the town of Mormugao in order to reduce pressure on housing in twons.

A substantial immigration of labour from the neighbouring states has added to the population of the territory. White-collared employees come from Kerala and Karnataka and the manual labour comes from Andhra Pradesh.

The percentage of literacy has also gone up to 56, with Goa leading over Daman and Diu.

Another revelation of the latest census is that in Goa males outnumber females. But in Diu there are more females than males.

A large number of Goans have registered their mother-tongue as English instead of Konkini.

Gulf money spurs boom

Cochin, (UNI) - Money flowing in from the Gulf countries has led to a construction boom in the South Indian State of Kerala, according to a report in "Financial Express", a national daily.

The report states construction work by Keralites working in Gulf States (Gulf Malayalees) is being undertaken despite the prices of real estate and construction cost having risen manifold over the last few years. Hectic construction of buildings, not only in towns and cities but also in villages, has transformed the scenario of Kerala. Hutments amidst lush green paddy fields are being replaced by concrete structures. It is estimated that 70 per cent of the new buildings coming up are being constructed by the Gulf Malayalees or their relatives here.

The only investment of these Gulf-based Keralites is in real estate and efforts by the Kerala Government to channelise the money flowing into the State for productive investments have not been successful so far.

With a view to channelising savings from expatriate Indians in the Gulf countries in industrial ventures, the Kerala Government has commissioned KITCO, an industrial consultancy group sponsored by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI).

KITCO has mooted the concept of foster management wherein a strong management group to be promoted in India would run projects on behalf of expatriates willing to invest but not ready to manage as long as they have non-resident status. The investor, when he returns from West Asia, would take over the unit from the group with all its assets and liabilities and manage it himself.

However, until such a proposition takes-off, the Gulf Malayalees continue to invest in real estate where there are few risk factors. As the real estate prices are increasing every day, the new-rich do not find it unwise to invest in real estate.

Data reception
From satellite concludes

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The satisfactory performance of India's first satellite provided useful inputs for the design of the second satellite, Bhaskara. Bhaskara was hurled into space on June 7, 1979 from a Soviet Cosmodrome for earth observations.

The 445-kg experimental satellite designed and built by ISRO contained sophisticated instruments for carrying out remote sensing experiments over India by using TV cameras and microwave radiometres. The experiments conducted onboard Bhaskara were in the fields of collecting data and assessing capabilities of satellites for application in metereology, water resources, forestry, regional geology and vegetation mapping.

The data received from the satellite has confirmed the design and methodology used for the satellite.

The two satellites will, however, continue to be tracked by the ISRO station in Ahmedabad to enable location of their position at any time.

Hazards of X-ray radiation

Bombay, (UNI) - While major radiation accidents occasionally attract wide publicity - Three Mile Island in the US and Tarapur leaks, for example — such hazards are daily occurrences in public hospitals and private clinics and often go unnoticed, says an Indian Express report.

Radiation surveys reveal that over 70 per cent of the hazards are confined to the field of diagnostic radiology (when used to detect ailments). The lack of awareness of the magnitude of the problem, rank indifference or gross negligence are the factors that contribute to this hidden danger.

Radiation can cause irrepairable damage to various parts of the human body, especially the reproductive organs, the skin or the eye. It can also give rise to genetic defects or lead to cancerous conditions.

Even the simple process of obtaining an X-ray plate (a radiograph, in technical language) involves radiation hazards and for this reason certain precautions must be taken in the field of diagnostic radiology.

The study contends that radiation in the field of diagnostic radiology can be due to overexposure to primary and secondary X-ray radiation. The radiation can affect the patient, the operator, the technician, the radiologist or even a person in an adjoining room. And this often happens in private clinics and public hospitals.

Primary radiation is the actual emission of X-rays from the X-ray tube aimed at the part of the patient's body to be radiographed. Secondary radiation is the reflection of the primary radiation from the patient's body on surrounding surfaces.

Fourth day Jewish worship

New Delhi, (UNI) - When Delhi's small Jewish community faced the East and awaited the rising of the Sun on Wednesday, members of their faith the world all over did the same.

It was no ordinary sunrise. It was on the fourth day, says the Old Testament, the sacred book of the Christians, that the Lord created the Sun. According to the Jewish belief and tradition, on Wednesday, the fourth day of the week, the Sun was in the same position as it was when the Lord created it.

This happens every 28 years. On April 8, 1953, a small gathering of the Jews prayed at the same spot where they did on Wednesday.

On the sprawling lawns of the Ferozshah Kotla monument, they sang praises to the Lord for the wonders of his creation.

The President of the Jewish Welfare Association, Mr. Ezra Kolet led the prayers as there is no rabbi in Delhi. During the service, the Psalms had specific references to the Sun and to creation.

The next time the Sun will be in the same position on April 8, 2009. Incidentally, it will fall on a Wednesday. The calculations are based on the Jewish calendar.

Foreign collaboration in tourism

New Delhi, (UNI) - India has decided to invite foreign collaboration in promoting the tourism industry in the country, according to Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation A.P. Sharma.

Mr. Sharma said the collaboration would be sought mainly in building hotels.

Foreign collaboration would be in the form of equity shares and loans. Equity shares to foreign investors, Mr. Sharma said, had been raised from 20 per cent to 30 per cent in the case of Western countries and to 40 per cent in the case of petro-dollar countries.

Last month, the Indian Government had allowed its hotel industry to collaborate with renowned international hotel chains for the specific purpose of sales and marketing but not for management of the hotels. The Government is not keen on collaboration in management of hotels since India has developed expertise in this field.

But in face of the highly competitive nature of international tourism, tie-ups with international chains in marketing is expected to encourage business houses to diversify and encourage new entrepreneurs to enter the hotel industry.

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Loan from World Bank

New Delhi, (UNI) - The International Development Association (IDA), the soft loan affiliate of the World Bank, has approved a credit of $400 million for a fertiliser project at Hazira in the Indian State of Gujarat.

This project is designed to help meet India's growing requirement for nitrogenous fertilisers, using locally available natural gas.

The project is based on steam reforming of non-associated natural gas from the South Bassein fields, located 300 km from Hazira. The gas will be brought to Hazira by a pipeline.

The recently established Krishak Bharati Co-operative Ltd.(Kribhco) will implement the project which consists of two ammonia plants with a capacity of 1,350 tonnes each per day, four urea plants with a capacity of 1,100 tonnes each per day and three steam generating plants of 275 tonnes each per day.

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POLITICAL WILDERNESS

As reported elsewhere one of the founders of the Edward Burke Society in Toronto wants to restrict immigration to whites only and to develop a supreme race of "intelligent people". It is ironic that the occupation of this individual is given as high school teacher. More importantly, he is the federal Conservative Party's Metro Toronto organization's new treasurer.

We do have plenty of racists in our midst. That is not surprising. What is surprising however, is the fact that often many of those with such political views join the Progressive Conservative Party.

Looking at such people in the past many have changed their views when they become more enlightened. However, when a high school teacher talks in these terms, one wonders whether it is lack of knowledge or prejudice, pure and simple. Perhaps this person urgently needs a bit more and better education and will certainly benefit from a few Personal Enlightenment Days or Ignorance Elimination Days!

Because of the harbouring of many such racists in the party, the Progressive Conservatives have not, at the federal level, received much support from the minority groups in particular, and immigrants in general. This is one of the main reasons why the PCs have been in political wilderness, for a long time, except for the 9-month Joe Clark interlude.

The enlightened views of Joe Clark, the leader of the PCs and of people like Flora McDonald, David McDonald and many others on these matters have brought some credibility to PCs. However, the rank and file PCs such as this Toronto teacher is further maligning the already tarnished image of the PCs and ensuring that the mighty opposition role of the Party will be enshrined to eternity.

An impartial observer of the Canadian political scene would have preferred a democratic system that roughly alternated between the two major parties. However, with people like this Toronto teacher in the Party, the nation's future will be safer where it is.

Satellite plans progressing

New Delhi, (UNI) - India's space programme will touch a new height of achievement when the Indian National Satellite Telecommunications-1 (INSAT-1) is launched in February 1982.

Brisk preparations are under way at Kennedy Space Centre of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USA, which would launch the satellite and place it in a geostationary orbit 35,784 km above India.

The satellite would enable high power video transmission for direct broadcast to thousands of low cost television radio and disaster warning receivers. It will be a full-fledged communications satellite with three channels for colour TV. It will also be used by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

The first INSAT is scheduled to be launched by a Delta 3910 vehicle from the United States.

The second satellite, Insat-2, will be launched by a Space Shuttle Launch Vehicle and in the event of non-availability of the Space Shuttle, a Delta 3910 vehicle would back up the launches for India's multi-purpose satellites.

Both the satellites would carry out missions concerning voice and picture transmission broadly in the area of telecommunications, meteorology, television and radio.

Liberal import policy

New Delhi, (UNI) - The special facilities for non-resident Indians returning home for settlement have been further liberalised in several respects in the import policy for 1981-82, announced in Parliament on April 3.

Under the liberalised scheme, the upper value limit of 3,12,500 dollars for each non-resident Indian for import of machinery has been removed.

These persons will be allowed the facilities not only for setting up a new industry but also for participation in the expansion or diversification of an existing industry.

The restriction on import of banned machinery may be relaxed where such machinery is imported by a professional or technical person who has been using it abroad for at least one year before its return to India.

Import of computer systems may be allowed where the applicant has been using the system abroad for at least one year before returning to India or where the computer is a built-in part of the equipment being allowed for import.

Import of prototypes will be allowed.

Import of cement purchased out of the applicant's foreign exchange earnings abroad and required for construction of the factory will also be allowed.

The benefit of a concessional rate of customs duty as admissible on project imports would be permissible in these cases.

A provision has also been made that Indians who wish to return home for settlement may be allowed to import machinery required for agricultural production, development, for their own use, purchased out of their foreign exchange earnings and resources abroad.

Among world capitals

Delhi is safest

New Delhi, (UNI) - Delhi citizens seem to be more honest than their counterparts elsewhere, if one were to go according to the figures collected by a senior police officer here.

In London, as many as 29,845 cases of cheating and fraud were reported against 1746 cases in Delhi. Tokyo recorded over 12,000 cases.

This, and the sampling of other crime records reveals that New Delhi is the "safest" big capital city in the world. The study also says that the state of its law and order makes Delhi look like a picnic spot.

The sampling covers Paris, Tokyo, New York, Chicago, Washington and Los Angeles for 1979 and London, for which the information relates to 1978.

New York leads with the highest annual crime in police records for a year followed by London.

Washington, the Federal Capital of US, with a population of only 656,000 people had more crime on police records than those reported in the entire Union Territory of Delhi which had a population of 607,387.

In 1979, Tokyo recorded 237,907 cases, Paris 268,199, Los Angeles 258,635, and Chicago 186,728.

New York reported 3875 cases of rape, while Delhi registered only 72 cases during the same period. It is accepted that actual rape incidents are more than what is reflected in police records but after giving the most generous margin, the figures show that Delhi remains a very safe place for women to walk on roads, unescorted. Paris recorded 147 rape cases, London 277, Tokyo 388, Chicago 1,655 and Los Angeles 2508.

London leads in the incidence of petty thefts. In 1979 this world tourist capital recorded 324,108 cases, followed by New York, Tokyo, Paris, Los Angeles and Chicago.

Delhi reported an insignificant 25,673 cases of petty thefts, approximately 13 times less than those reported in London, which has double Delhi's population.

New York recorded 82,572 cases of robbery in 1979, which is twice the number of incidents reported in Delhi.

During the period, Tokyo reported only 416 cases of hold-ups, against 606 reported in Delhi.

New York also led in the incidence of burglary with 178,162 cases, followed by Los Angeles with 74,339 cases, Chicago 33,396 and Washington 19,452.

London reported 58,857 cases of burglary and Paris 41,217. The figure for Tokyo was 42,933. Delhi reported 3259 burglaries.

The study also says that the position of law and order in Delhi has further improved after the adoption of the commissioner of police system.

Snubbing

Heart attack cause

Bombay, (UNI) - Snubbing by the boss is believed to be the most common cause of heart attacks, according to a survey conducted by the Indian National Society for Prevention of Heart Diseases and Rehabilitation.

The study reported in Hindustan Times, an English Daily, shows that employees in service account for 47 per cent of the reported heart attack cases.

Senior servicemen, known as "executives", have a share of 15 per cent in the total number of cases, raising the share of people in service to 62 per cent.

Businessmen account for 19 per cent of the cases and 11 per cent of medical men suffer heart attacks.

The Society has advised that no two persons with "risky" hearts be made husband and wife.

"Risky" hearts are those who have family history of cornary artery disease, hypertension, stroke, diabetes, overweight and sudden death; according to Dr Jay Shekhar Jhaveri.

The Society has found 153 "Real" heart attack victims, who have survived for over 15 years. Of them, 60 per cent had a family history of one or more of the above-listed problems and of these 60 per cent, 84 per cent had direct parental history of these diseases.

Irrespective of any symptoms, such "risky hearts" must have complete physical and cardiac check-up with the exercise-tolerance test right from their early thirties and have check-ups at least once in every two years, according to Dr. Jhaveri.

The Society, which is "decorating" those who have lived for over 15 years after the first "real" heart attack, has collected data to prove that after the heart attack 85 per cent of these persons did not have diabetes, 80 per cent did not have hypertension, 80 per cent did not smoke, 75 per cent became tee-totallers, 58 per cent reported a reduction in fatty and fried food intake, 54 became vegetarian and 94 per cent reported that they had changed their temperament from short to cool temper.

The data shows that 90 per cent of the heart attack patients went back to the same job and occupation which they had before the attack and nearly 60 per cent of them had the same number of hours at work as before. Another important fact that has come to light is that, 80 per cent of the patients had suffered the first attack between the ages of 40 and 60 years, ten per cent were under 40 years and ten per cent were above 60 years. Dr. Jhaveri added, "our experience reveals that today more and more younger people are having heart attacks". He told newsmen here that those who have suffered heart attacks should carefully avoid secondary risk factors like smoking, untreated diabetes, untreated hypertension, increased intake of fatty and fried foods, overweight, lack of physical exercises and volatile temperament.

INDIA OFFERS ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA

New Delhi, (UNI) - India has offered assistance to African countries for undertaking development projects.

An assurance to this effect was given by an Indian delegation which attended the 16th session of United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

India ent computer

New Delhi, (UNI)- Computer revolution has dawned over India. More than one computer is being installed in the country every day. Over 500 new computers are likely to be installed during 1981, taking the total number of computers to 15,000. The Hindustan Computers Limited alone will manufacture and install over 300 computers during the current year.

India also exports computers to several countries like Singapore and Venezuala. An Indian firm has established joint venture projects with the world's second largest computer manufacturing firm in the United States.

The progress is evident. Computerisation has now reached the grass root levels in various sectors of the Indian economy, as the Marketing Chief of the Hindustan Computers Limited said recently.

The rising tempo of computerisation is largely due to the phenomenal increase in the indigenous production of micro and mini computers, which is within the reach of the large number of medium or even small companies.

Also the increase in the manufacture of micro and mini computers is benefitting a large number of enterpreneurs. Some of the computers could be operated by a typist.

Unlike in the past, when the computers were being installed only by large organisations, now these electronic machines are being bought by small companies.

Successf rocket te

Trivandrum, (UNI) - Indian and West German scientists have jointly carried out the first test flight of an Indian-made rocket carrying both Indian and West German payloads.

The launching, conducted on April 17 from the Thumba equatorial rocket launching station here, was described by scientists as "quite successful" and the large amount of data collected was being analysed.

The test flight was part of the collaboration programme of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and the West German space agency DFVLR.

The main objective of the joint flight was to develop modern altitude sensing devices using a radio frequency and perfect the latest technology in the determination and correction of altitude of satellites.

Dr. V.R. Gowariar, Director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre here, said the Indian-made Centaure rocket carried an interferometer, and short band radio receiver developed by ISRO and an onboard computer, camera and other devices provided by the DFVLR.

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India enters computer age

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The time has come when data processing and computing will manifest itself in India in many new ways, spreading further into the home and school, as well as into the segments of industry, commerce, transportation and communications.

"The computer revolution would be far more exciting than anything we have seen thus far", an American expert on computers had once said.

The year 1981 sees more than 60 electronics companies in operation, producing a variety of these gadgets, described by the layman as confusing and complex. It was in 1955 that India got its first computer. Today there are more than 500 computers and more than 200 of them are indigenously assembled. Of the total, 154 computers belong to the giant multi-national, International Business Machines (IBM). The IBM left the country in 1977. Of the indigenous ones, Electronics Corporation of India now leads the field. It installed India's first mini-computer in 1971 at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre in Trombay, near Bombay. The Digital Equipment Corporation has as many as 59 systems operating in the country.

Today's technology is packing into small size yesterday's large electronic machines. The wondrous gadgets are small, even tiny electronic circuits that can give a brain power equal to a thousand well-educated persons.

Newspapers to be nationalised?

New Delhi, (UNI) - Nationalisation of the top eight Indian newspaper establishments to "reduce the hold of big business interests over the press" has been recommended in a study conducted by the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) here.

The study states that the Indian newspaper industry has a high degree of economic concentration "and what is more surprising is that trends suggest its accentuation with each successive year." Ownership and control do not rest within the industry and the present managements have "vested interests and strong connections" outside the newspaper industry. "The linkages are strong," the study observes.

The study, commissioned by the Second Press Commission and entitled "ownership and control of the Indian press," was conducted by Prof. S.K. Goyal and Challapathi Rao of IIPA.

In a separate table, the report lists eight newspaper establishments having 'close association' with big business. They are The Express Newspapers, Bennett Coleman and Company Limited, Hindustan Times and Allied Publications, Malayala Manorama Company Limited, Statesman Limited, Pioneer Limited, Sanmarg (Private) Limited and V.S. Dempo and Company (Private) Limited.

The study assets that takeover of the eight establishments under control of big business would not mean State monopoly over the entire Indian press. It however, notes that radio and television, which are under State control, have not remained independent of influence and pressure from the government and the party in power.

If the eight units are to be taken over, the existing organisational forms need not necessarily be altered and the boards of management can be so constituted as to ensure these establishments operational independence, the study suggests.

Further, a built-in system can be developed to provide for representation to different sections of society. Additionally, there can be certain minimum guarantees to journalists, political parties and individual readers in matters of obligation to publish their viewpoints.

"It is not an impossible task, though it would be undoubtedly difficult," the study observes.

"One should keep in mind that unlike other industries, newspaper readers would continue to have the option to shift from one newspaper to another. If readers in Government-owned newspapers, was not objective or was biased in favour of a particular political party, this would easily be reflected in newspaper circulation," the study says.

The study maintains that the big business controlled press has been successful in influencing Governments to deviate from declared public policies.

"The role of the press has not been promotion of public interest, on the contrary, it has been promotion of big business interest."

Diamond exploration launched

New Delhi, (UNI) - The diamond hunt is on. India has initiated a three-year programme to look for the precious crystals in Central state of Madhya Pradesh (MP) and southern state of Andhra Pradesh (AP).

Though Madhya Pradesh, where the legendary Panna mines are situated, has a hoary tradition of containing diamonds, Andhra has been included in the exploration following the discovery of three diamonds in the Wajrakarur area. One of these stones weighed 67 mg while the other two tipped the scales at 18 mg each.

The new 31 million dollar programme is designed to establish the incidence of diamonds in different "host" rocks, locating primary sources of diamonds and evaluating the commercial viability of these occurrences.

The Geological Survey of India has been named the lead agency in the exploration with Minerals Exploration Corporation doing the drilling, pitting and exploratory mining. The processing of the excavated rock and treatment and evaluation of the samples will be carried out by the National Mineral Development Corporation.

According to reports, drilling and pitting have already begun in Sahiden Hoturpur areas in the Panna belt and the Munimadagu areas of Andhra Pradesh. The processing plant is expected to be installed towards the middle of this year.

The programme involves 11,300 metres of drilling and excavating of more than 93,000 cubic metres of earth. The rocks to be processed for their diamond content may total up to 24,000 tonnes.

According to established studies in Madhya Pradesh, the diamond occurrences are spread over a belt about 90 km long and 15 to 30 km wide between Keraia and Itwadundalia.

Hopes are attached to the Jhiri conglomerate in Madhya Pradesh where as much as 40 carats of diamonds can be found in every 100 tonnes of rock. The diamond-bearing strata is presumed to stretch over an area of about 700 metres wide and 2.7 km wide with an average thickness of about 40 to 70 cms.

The gravels along the Baghain river investigated by the NMDC are estimated to contain a reserve of about 1,15,182 carats of diamonds. In the Ramkheria mines, the NMDC has recovered 50,000 carats of diamonds.

Successful rocket test flight

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Meanwhile, India's second Satellite for Earth Observation (SEO II) similar to its predecessor Bhaskara-I whose mission ended recently, is to be launched in the second-half of this year.

The satellite, an improvement over Bhaskara, will be launched from a Russian concosmodrome by an Intercosmos launch vehicle.

Some modifications have been made in the configuration of SEO-II to eliminate the anomolies encountered in Bhaskar and to improve performance and reliability.

The fabrication of the mainframe systems and payloads for the flight model have been initiated. The modifications required in the software and hardware related to spacecraft operations and ground systems have also been identified, according to a report of the Space Department.

Some of the changes implemented in SEO-II in the light of the experience gained in Bhaskara include direct connexion of the high voltage of the TV tube in the camera system to eliminate the problem which caused the initial board Bhaskara, and changes in power and telecommand system to reduce possibilities of single point failure.

Bhaskara-I which was launched from the Soviet Union in 1979 completed its mission on March 31.

Gujarati gets new fans

New Delhi, (UNI) - Poet Mansuri's father migrated from Gujarat to Pakistan but returned to India soon after. Later, when the Gujarat Government was about to deport the family, Mansuri wrote an emotional poem which led to a public outburst against his deportation. The State Government eventually had to rescind its expulsion orders.

The episode was highlighted in the Pakistani daily "Dawn". It remarked how narrowly Pakistan had lost a promising poet to India.

Even today, interest in Pakistan for material written in Gujarati language (spoken in the Indian state of Gujarat) has not waned.

Recently, a delegation of Gujarati writers led by a 73-year-old veteran, Ghanjibhai Dahiwala, visited Karachi to attend a Gujarati Kavi Sammelan (poets' gathering). It turned out to be the first delegation of Gujarati writers to Pakistan after India achieved independence.

Pakistan has its Gujarati poets too. But only a few can be compared to their Indian counterparts. Dahiwala says Ghazal writers in India remain faithful to the classic Persian metres, but not all the Pakistani writers do so. Most of their poems, he says, are confined to religious themes.

Dahiwala, who has been writing ghazals for almost half a century, has many admirers and friends in Pakistan. The veteran journalist, Mohammed Sadiq, who was associated with "Watan" from Bombay, and Mohammed Baig, the poet who hails from Gujarat, are some of his admirers.

Memons, according to Dahiwala, have been doing well in business and speak Kutchi (spoken in the Rann of Kutch) at home and Parsi have also served their variation of Gujarati but many Gujarati-speaking people have expressed their fears of the younger generation being weaned away from this language.

Gujarati-speaking people form the third largest linguistic group in Pakistan, according to "Dawn", but education is imparted in Urdu and English.

INDO-SOVIET COOPERATION IN METEOROLOGY

New Delhi, (UNI) - India and the Soviet has signed an agreement for cooperation in science and technology, particularly meteorology.

Asbestos danger in India

Informed eye-witness accounts of hazards in and around factories in the Third World are rare. Here Barry Castleman presents an investigation of two asbestos factories in India. Both are associated with Western multinational companies and both are far from safe.

Few companies in the Third World have the medical and scientific expertise needed to control hazards in factories. Yet the medical literature is replete with hard-learned lessons about the damaging effects of toxic substances on industrial workers - lessons often learned in the factories of the same companies that now dominate the international mining and manufacturing scene. So one might expect subsidiaries or affiliates of large multinationals in Third World countries to observe higher standards of environmental safety than local industries.

At least this is the aim of many of the multinationals that operate in the Third World. For example, Dr. Harold Gordon, the medical director of Dow Chemical, says: "The rule is that we abide by the local standards or the Dow standards, whichever are the most stringent."

But this article paints rather a different picture of the case of two other multinationals. It is based on visits to two Indian asbestos plants - the Shree Digvijay Cement Company's plant in Ahmedabad and Hindustan Ferodo in Bombay - last year. The visits revealed hazards in and around both factories that would not be allowed in the West.

Asbestos-cement building panels and pipes are popular in India - in 1977, 11 plants there made 420,000 tonnes of asbestos-cement sheet and 81,000 tonnes of pipe. One of these plants is owned by the Shree Digvijay Cement Company. The factory is almost 20 years old and the American asbestos corporation Johns-Manville helped build it. Johns-Manville supplied Shree Digvijay with "technical know-how, designs, drawings, specifications, and planning data and with all other technical information and engineering assistance including the erection and supervision of the project". Johns-Manville owns some shares in the company.

Early in the 1970s, Shree Digvijay began exporting its products and appointed Johns-Manville as its sole selling agents for the Middle East and Africa. In addition, Johns-Manville supplies Shree Digvijay with raw asbestos fibre. Although Johns-Manville does not own the Indian company, it is tied to it by a myriad of business connections.

More importantly, it is Johns-Manville's stated policy that: "We will reserve the right to refuse to sell asbestos fibre to customers who fail to meet applicable government regulations on asbestos exposure and therefore endanger the health of their employees, and expose Johns-Manville to unwarranted liability. In those countries where there are no governmental regulations on asbestos exposure (India is one), accepted industrial hygiene practice shall apply."

The road to the Shree Digvijay plant was lined on both sides by asbestos cement waste. A high wall surrounded the factory. Outside, untreated waste water emptied into a trench piled with solid asbestos waste on either side. Solid waste from the plant littered the neighbourhood where houses stand - indeed some of the houses were made from hunks of asbestos-cement pipes and scraps of corrugated asbestos-cement sheets. Children played on the wastes around their homes.

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that suspended solids in waste water from American plants making asbestos cement be tightly controlled. By 1984, the EPA says it will demand that asbestos-cement factories in the US discharge no asbestos at all in their waste water - they must recycle all their process water. The agency will also require that disposal sites for asbestos waste are fenced off and warning notices posted, or that the dumped asbestos is covered daily with soil or some other material. The EPA may even order widespread restrictions on the use of asbestos under the Toxic Substances Control Act - it has already selected asbestos-cement pipes that carry drinking water for special attention. At an EPA conference in July last year, it became obvious that there are many possible substitutes for the asbestos-cement materials that are used in construction.

Shree Digvijay's asbestos products carried no warning labels, telling people how to avoid creating dust when they use the pipes and sheet. It is well-known that cutting and working asbestos-cement gives rise to hazardous asbestos dust.

It is ironic that thousands of American workers have brought suits against Johns-Manville for not putting warning labels on the asbestos products it sold in the US until 1964. Yet Shree Digvijay's asbestos-cement products, made from fibres that Johns-Manville sold to the company, carried no labels in 1980.

In 1978, the Asbestos International Association - an international group of asbestos companies - issued a memorandum which made it plain that the asbestos companies would accept warning labels piecemeal, country by country, and, in countries where public pressure for warning labels was too great to ignore, would lobby for the mildest possible warning.

No such pressure seems likely in India. Neither are Shree Digvijay's workers likely to imitate Johns-Manville's former employees in California who brought law suits against the company for more than a billion dollars.

Johns-Manville must have known about the consequences of exposing the public and workers to asbestos for a long time. In 1967, 17 fatal cases of cancer of the lining of the lung (pleural mesothelioma, a disease caused almost exclusively by asbestos) were reported in the small town of Manville in New Jersey. By 1975, there were 72 victims of the rare and invariably fatal cancer in this town of 15,000 people, where Johns-Manville still has its largest manufacturing plant. There were numerous other reports strongly suggesting exposure to asbestos as a cause of this disease.

When Dr. Paul Kotin, Johns-Manville's senior vice-president for health, safety and the environment, was shown pictures of Shree Digvijay's plant, he said, "That's criminal". But John McKinney, chairman of Johns-Manville's board, says in his company's annual report for 1979, "Asbestos fibre enjoyed one of its best years due primarily to strength in overseas markets where most of the fibre is used in asbestos-cement construction materials." Last year the company sold asbestos fibres worth $188 million.

In Bombay, Hindustan Ferodo makes asbestos brake and clutch linings and asbestos textiles. The plant opened in 1956. The British asbestos company, Turner and Newell, owns 74 per cent of the company. The picture of the plant that a well-informed local source painted is not pretty. Exports of Hindustan Ferodo's products stopped in 1979, partly because the local demand was high and partly because shipments to Britain were refused - they were not triple-packed in polyethylene bags as a safety measure.

Inside the plant, only workers in the fluffing and carding areas are issued with respirators. Here the asbestos dust is like the dust "behind a bus on a dirt road in the dry season". Workers are not told about the hazards of asbestos and often do not wear the respirators. They receive an "inconvenience allowance" for working in this section.

The same source says that simple "housekeeping" measures are not employed in the plant: floors are "dryswept", creating dust; the same lockers hold overalls and the workers' own clothes, which are thus contaminated; workers receive regular medical examinations but are not told the results. Day labourers who carry away the waste dust that the ventilation system traps have no protection; they are covered with dust.

These two examples illustrate a fundamental point. The life-saving medical and engineering technology that should be exported along with dangerous technologies is often left behind. It is time for responsible members of the business world to step forward and make a commitment not to profit by such abuses.

[New Scientist].

Gavaskar: A controversial cricketeer

[Suhas Agashe]

New Delhi, (UNI) - Indian cricket team's captain Sunil Gavaskar was seen in action in the Gulf countries for the first time last month when, along with top Indian and Pakistani cricketers, played in matches in Dubai and Sarjah for the benefit of former Pakistan captain Asif Iqbal.

Sunil Gavaskar, 31, made a stormy and spectacular entry in Indian cricket in 1970 and has remained on top as the Indian captain.

To Sunil goes the credit of creating records in Indian cricket, but he has remained at the centre of controversies.

Sunil led the Indian team in 1978 against West Indies and won the series. But he was sacked for the English tour when Venkataraghavan took over. India lost the series and Sunil was appointed again as the captain.

He would have been the captain of the Indian team much before the former captain Bishen Singh Bedi took over. Bedi was dropped in 1974-75 series against West Indies on disciplinary grounds and an enquiry was held against him. The former Indian captain, Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi, who was recalled after Ajit Wadekar retired from captaincy, was injured and Gavaskar was then appointed captain.

As luck would have it, Gavaskar too was injured before he could head the team at the Delhi Test. Venkataraghavan then captained the team against West Indies.

Gavaskar won all the series he captained against Australia and Pakistan. But he relinquished the Indian captaincy just when they had won a series against Pakistan at Madras, with the final Test remaining to be played at Calcutta.

His brother-in-law, Gundappa Vishwanath captained the team. Later Gavaskar was chosen to lead the team on the twin tour of Australia and New Zealand. India lost the series against the latter for the first time.

Gavaskar, in his test career of about a decade has often clashed with the authorities, the press and his well-wishers.

Few have attempted to study this man both as a human being and as a player and found the reasons for his change of moods and attitudes. Those who found him amiable and friendly a few years ago, suddenly noticed in him a streak of conceit. Knowing Gavaskar personally as I do, I still think that a lot of bad blood would have been avoided if the officials of the Board of Control for Cricket in India had a heart to heart talk with him. His confrontation with the press was taken by both the sides to extremes. It has been seen that Gavaskar started ignoring the press.

But he had always sought the help of the press whenever he had trouble with the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

Gavaskar has also shown his sense of humour when on the field. At the last test played at the Brabourne Stadium in Bombay against England, Vishwanath had scored a century and England's tall Tony Greigh had lifted the short Vishwanath in his arms. Later, when Greig scored a century, Gavaskar, to the delight of the packed galleries, tried to lift him and finding it impossible, called Vishwanath for help.

Continuous teasing by his own players and the difficult relationship with the Board have been too much for Gavaskar to swallow. I remember an incident at Indore (Madhya Pradesh). The Bombay team were playing against MCC and a local association had given a party. The MCC team was sitting on the main dais along with the officials while the Bombay team was standing on the ground with us. When Sunil was called to speak, the MCC players made fun of him. But Sunil came out with: "There are two teams playing a match here. Both are from outside. One is the MCC sitting right up here, while the other is Bombay, standing down here. Thank you very much."

More eggs to be exported

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian Processed Food Export Council (PFEPC) has proposed to send a sales-cum-study team to the Gulf countries which provide a major egg market.

India's egg exports have registered a rise in recent years. In 1976-77, the country exported over 21 million eggs valued at about 102,000 dollars. In 1978-79, it increased to 23.57 million eggs valued at about 117,000 dollars. It may cross 37.5 million-dollar mark, creating a record this year, according to the Council.

Egg export, it is indicated, is still in an infant stage, but it has already started showing its potential. In spite of good potential, egg export could not be aggressively pushed due to the high freight rates compared to those obtained elsewhere.

India entered the egg export market in a big way just two years ago and in this short span it has built up a good market.

FILMS

KRANTI

Produced and directed by Manoj Kumar

India's freedom struggle against the British has been the subject of many an Indian film. Three among these relating to the First War of Independence (1857) stand out not only because they are associated with big names but also for the treatment, style and the aspects of Indian history they tackle: Sohrab Modi's **Jhansi Ki Rani**, Satyajit Ray's **Shatranj Ke Khiladi** and Shyam Benegal's **Junoon**. They remind us of the people and princes of the Indian subcontinent and their aspiration for freedom. They fought to halt if not throw back the invading British armies and their Indian collaborators.

Kranti may not be, and is certainly not, in the same category, artistically speaking, as **Jhansi Ki Rani**, **Shatranj Ke Khiladi** and **Junoon**, but its subject matter, its stupendous technical values and huge stellar cast, make it no less. Mounted with great care **Kranti** captures a kaleidoscope of Indian characters who participated in the freedom struggle. Sohrab Modi and Styajit Ray did a lot of research on their themes but the same cannot be said of **Kranti** which is more in the realm of fiction. **Kranti** has a prologue and an epilogue. In between is narrated in flashback the struggle of father and son in their own individual way, against the British and their Indian henchmen. In the prologue, the old revolutionary (grandfather) entrusts his grandson (the young revolutionary's boy), the task of taking revenge on the traitors responsible for the death of his son. The epilogue shows the grandson confronting the villain in his bedroom, and killing him after a fight in the presence of the grandfather. The film is made in a style Manoj Kumar is famous for - high-tension drama, rhetoric, stentorian dialogue, action, sensuality, sex and religious sentiments. Because of its universal appeal it will be popular with both urban and rural audiences. Its rural backdrop and princely order adding to its appeal.

Technically, it is a superb recreation of a period piece except for a few flaws here and there. Its stereophonic soundtrack and skilful photography, some of it from unusual angles, crisp editing and powerful performance by almost the entire cast are its positive points. There have been many 7 mm films after holay (1975). Kranti is the second-best in that gauge.

Dilip Kumar dominates the film as the senior revolutionary. One saw him on the screen after a long gap. His previous best was Bairaag in which he essayed three different roles, that of grandfather, son and grandson. His role in Kranti will be remembered for a long time, as it is at variance with his screen image, the

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Produced and directed by Manoj Kumar

India's freedom struggle against the British has been the subject of many an Indian film. Three among these relating to the First War of Independence (1857) stand out not only because they are associated with big names but also for the treatment, style and the aspects of Indian history they tackle: Sohrab Modi's **Jhansi Ki Rani**, Satyajit Ray's **Shatranj Ke Khiladi** and Shyam Benegal's **Junoon**. They remind us of the people and princes of the Indian subcontinent and their aspiration for freedom. They fought to halt if not throw back the invading British armies and their Indian collaborators.

Kranti may not be, and is certainly not, in the same category, artistically speaking, as **Jhansi Ki Rani, Shatranj Ke Khiladi** and **Junoon**, but its subject matter, its stupendous technical values and huge stellar cast, make it no less. Mounted with great care **Kranti** captures a kaleidoscope of Indian characters who participated in the freedom struggle. Sohrab Modi and Styajit Ray did a lot of research on their themes but the same cannot be said of **Kranti** which is more in the realm of fiction. **Kranti** has a prologue and an epilogue. In between is narrated in flashback the struggle of father and son in their own individual way, against the British and their Indian henchmen. In the prologue, the old revolutionary (grandfather) entrusts his grandsons (the young revolutionary's boy), the task of taking revenge on the traitors responsible for the death of his son. The epilogue shows the grandson confronting the villain in his bedroom, and killing him after a fight in the presence of the grandfather. The film is made in a style Manoj Kumar is famous for - high-tension drama, rhetoric, stentorian dialogue, action, sensuality, sex and religious sentiments. Because of its universal appeal it will be popular with both urban and rural audiences. Its rural backdrop and princely order adding to its appeal.

Technically, it is a superb recreation of a period piece, except for a few flaws here and there. Its stereophonic soundtrack and skilful photography, some of it from unusual angles, crisp editing and powerful performance by almost the entire cast are its positive points. There have been many 70 mm films after **holay** (1975). **Kranti** is the second-best in that gauge.

Dilip Kumar dominates the film as the senior revolutionary. One saw him on the screen after a long gap. His previous best was **Bairaag** in which he essayed three different roles, that of grandfather, son and grandson. His role in **Kranti** will be remembered for a long time, as it is at variance with his screen image, that of a forlorn lover. Nirupa Roy plays the pathetic mother whose husband left her to become a firebrand revolutionary. Prem Chopra is an adept at playing the villain, in **Kranti** he plays it so powerfully that one starts hating him and only his death in the end brings one a sense of relief. Hema Malini has a significant role too. Manoj Kumar plays the younger revolutionary and hams it up. The character of Bharat may be his monopoly, but to play it the same way always has become another monopoly with him.

British characters in the film are reduced to stereotypes. Even Tom Alter, a sensitive American actor who has played the foreign character on the Indian screen quite often, is shown in a stereotype mould.

In one or two shots one notices the painted canvas in the British castle/prison. Obviously the set was painted on canvas but enough care was seemingly not taken to make it look real. Again one is not sure if aluminium tea kettles were in use in the middle of the last century.

OPPOL
(The Elder Sister)
Malayalam.
Directed by K.S.Sethu Madhavan
Produced by Mrs Rosamma George.

K.S. Sethu Madhavan is one of the foremost film-makers in the South. He takes up off beat and daring subjects. During about three decades of his film career, he has directed over 70 films, a few in Hindi too, the most well-known of them **Julie** which for its theme, treatment, characterization and music, was one of the biggest hits of its time.

Oppol is an unusual film. Its plot - a strange, mysterious relationship between a kid and a woman who is addressed as **oppol** by the kid - is based on a story by M.T.Vasudevan Nair, a distinguished Malayalam writer and editor (of **Mathrubhumi** weekly) who has also written its screenplay. Photography is by Madhu Ambat who has made a name for himself in the South. Music is soft and subdued except for a few snatches when it is high-pitched for no reason. Any other team of film-makers would have turned the film into a loud melodrama but not Sethu Madhavan. The locations are scenic and beautiful and the hilly tracts of Malabar (Wynaad) add an extra dimension to the film's somewhat tragic proportions. Performances are natural and impressive.

In a family of three, Appu, the school-going kid, is as much loved by the younger woman ('oppol') as hated by the older one. While the older one makes sarcastic remarks about the misfortune he has brought to the family, the younger one pours her heart out to shower affection on him. Appu dreams of the day when she would be getting married like any other girl in the village. One day Appu finds her missing, looks for her all around and locates her at a temple going through a wedding ceremony. He insists on going along with her to her husband's farm. Her affection is now naturally divided between Appu and her husband, a retired military man now engaged in cultivating his native farm. Appu is responsible for a few misunderstandings and clashes between the couple.

Appu finds himself neglected by 'oppol' and maltreated by her husband. He disappears, disheartened as he is with the treatment and **'Oppol's'** siding with the rough man. With the help of a native boy, she located him and finds him running high temperature, decides to take him to a city doctor for treatment in spite of her husband's opposition. Her husband demands to know why she is so much devoted to Appu. "Because he is my son," is her shattering reply. From her first marriage, about which the husband knew but not the fact that she had a son too. Remorselessly she carries Appu on her shoulders to the doctor. Her husband comes from behind, takes the child from her and carries him himself.

Acceptance of another child, is not a new theme on the Indian screen; Hrishikesh Mukerjee made **Satyakam**, over a decade ago, where in a husband accepts another man's child. But then **Satyakam** was more about corruption in public places than a bastard child's acceptance. The finale in **Oppol** is as much a surprise revelation for the audience (though it is hinted at earlier when Appu is taunted by another boy at a wedding ceremony that his Oppol is his mother, not sister.)

Oppol won five awards in The Kerala State Awards for 1980 - best picture, best screenplay, best direction, best child artist and best recording. It could have been given an award for colour photography too. Master Arvind playing Appu, the young boy, is in love not only with **oppol** but with his role too. Only in a few shots is he camera conscious. Menaka is wonderfully natural as **oppol** in her first major role in a Malayalam film. Balan K. Nair, looks every inch a retired military man. But the sterner side of him we saw earlier in **Agni**, directed by Radhakrishnan, as a butcher.

Oppol is a strong contender for important awards in the National Film Festival awards, to be announced, next month, by the National Feature Film jury, appointed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Government of India. By the way, it is the first time that the Feature Film jury headed by V.Shantaram, will be having its sittings and screenings at Bombay instead of Delhi.

Care of the handicapped

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Government of India is working out a programme to promote awareness of the special needs of the handicapped, the children, the women and the underprivileged sections of the society.

The Government of India, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, has developed a piece of equipment which can enable the blind to operate on a powerloom. The prototype of a light probe has also been developed for the blind to work on the telephone switchboard. A dictaphone is being ordered to train the blind in audio-typing.

Experiments are going on in India to train the blind women in the manufacture of airbags, key cases, spectacle cases and the like. They are also being trained to sew simple garments such as handkerchief and pillow cases. To assist in this process, a new needle threader has been developed.

AGREEMENT

Directed by Anil Ganguly

Produced by Jogendra Singh

Hiring a husband to suit a lady's convenience or compulsion is not a new theme in Indian cinema. In 1955 Guru Dutt spun a story around the theme of a mod lady hiring a husband to exploit the comic potential of Madhubala and entitled it **Mr and Mrs 1955**. The last time one saw a Hindi film with a similar plotline was four years ago when Sanjeev Kumar showed his comic talent in **Manchalli** starring Sulochana Pandit. In between we had **Man Ka Meet and Mohabbat Zindagi Hai**. Hollywood had also taken up the theme. In **Agreement**, a foreign-returned woman libber hires a husband, an unemployed youth. The terms of the agreement are peculiar: Though married, in private they will be total strangers to each other, without any claims whatsoever. The husband shall receive Rs 1,000 as pocket money and additional allowance to defray the household expenses, etc. etc.

The plotline makes it evident that **Agreement** is a comedy. The screenplay and the directorial style are so banal that the characters leave it to "funny" situations to evoke laughter. Rekha who showed her comic potential to such hilarious advantage in **Khoobsoorat** is in this case good in one sequence only - interviewing prospective husband-candidates. Shailendra Singh, the singing sensation of **Bobby**, is out of sorts with the role, though his father, Jogendra Singh, the producer of the film may have wanted to give his son another break after he failed to make the grade in **Do Jasoos**. Even Asrani seems to have forgotten his comic sense. Utpal Dutt plays the tongue-in-cheek uncle. Aruna Irani has a sympathetic role. A Gujarati **bartanwali** whose husband, by compulsion, is a pick pocket.

Every story, these days, has a crime angle. **Agreement** is no different. Sujit Kumar and Bindu live it up as people cheating their employer and the public alike. The film takes long to pick up the central theme which peters out before it has made an impact. Anil Ganguly is good at melodrama, especially those created in Bengali milieu, but in comedy he is completely at sea. Shailendra Singh sings two of his own songs without much impact.

Comedies are rarely successful in the North, the one that made the box office grade was **Pyar Kiye Ja**. Mahmood's own **Do Phool** and Rajendra Kumar's **Do Jasoos** came a cropper.

KRODHI
Written & Directed by Subhash Ghai
Produced by Ranjit Virk

A prolific film director, Subhash Ghai has, during the last one year, come up with three multistarrers: **Gautam Govinda, Karz** and now **Krodhi**. All the three films entertain in different ways.

Krodhi is about an angry young man who takes to plundering after the tragic death of his beloved. The police set a prize on him and pursue him like a shadow. He seeks shelter with a holyman who turns him into a saint devoted to the welfare and service of the people whom he considered his enemies. Now other gunmen-plunderers are after him to join them to pluner the town's temple. He resists the temptation. The police and the criminals-in-arms would not leave him alone. Once again he becomes a **krodhi** (angry man) to fight his last battle.

Dharmendra has played the dacoit many times before **Samadhi, Patthar aur Payal** and **Chanauti**) but is is the first time that he is portrayed both as saint and sinner. And for him transformation from one role to the other is very easy. Pran, the godly man who brings about his transformation, had himself in a film earlier undergone a change from a sinner to a saint. He is one of Hindi cinema's most accomplished character artists. When he acts it, he lives it. Premnath is the gangman-plunderer who turns against 'Krodhi' when he refuses to join him in plundering the town's temple. Shashi Kapoor plays the CBI officer at his wit's end as most screen police men are. Zeenat Aman and Hema Malini provide the feminine interest. Other major role players are: A.K.Hangal, Asit Sen, Amrish Puri, Bharat Bhushan, C.Dubey, Gautam, MacMohan, Iftkhar and Jagadish Raj. A multi-starrer has so many characters that even big-time character artists are sometimes reduced to cameo roles. Musical compositions, a must for a multi-starrer, are not so melodious. Technical values are first class, especially cinematography by Kamalakar Rao.

Supreme race

Tory officials aim

By Christie McLaren

The new treasurer of the federal Progressive Conservative Party's Metro Toronto organization is a founder of the Edmund Burke Society who believes in restricted immigration, thinks the boat people should have been sent to inhabit desert islands and expresses the belief that a supreme race of intelligent people "is a good idea."

He is Paul Fromm, 32, treasurer of PC Metro, an umbrella organization linking 31 federal ridings in the Metro Toronto region.

An English teacher at Applewood Heights Secondary School in Mississauga, Mr. Fromm says his election to the post on April 15 is the result of "a definite trend to the right" within the organization, which he says has been largely dominated by Red Tories in the past.

He interprets his election as an unmistakable sign that the organization is finally seeing the light.

In an age when most of their peers were demonstrating against the Vietnam war, Mr. Fromm and his friends had a different philosophy. "We thought we would present the counter voice," he said in an interview.

They formed the militant right-wing, anti-Communist Edmund Burke Society in 1967. Named after the 18th-century English parliamentarian who is viewed as the father of modern conservatism, the group maintained a high profile until 1972, when it shifted direction and was renamed the Western Guard.

Its enemies, according to a 1971 speech by Mr. Fromm, were international Communist conspirators, most university professors, all moderates, rabble in the street, the professional poor, the press and especially Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

In an interview on Sunday at the meticulously furnished Mississauga townhouse where he lives with his wife, Mary, Mr. Fromm played down his involvement with the Edmund Burke Society and denied he has ever been linked with the Western Guard. (The society became the Western Guard in February, 1972. Mr. Fromm left the organization that May, saying it had lost its quality of tolerance.)

However, his list of enemies is pretty much the same. No 1 is Mr. Trudeau, who "has led Canada a long way down the road to socialism" and, through a liberal immigration policy, "has brought us a racial problem."

Mr. Fromm said he hopes that PC Metro - with "a lot of money" from the party organization in Ottawa - will become a strong force to counteract both liberal and Liberal dominance in Canada.

(The organization, which has quarterly meetings of delegates from the riding associations, now gets no money from federal PC headquarters. It does not make party policy and is not independent of the riding associations; its executives volunteer their time.)

In the interview, Mr. Fromm denied that he ever embraced the anti-Semitism philosophies of the Western Guard. "That is not true of me and it was not true of the Edmund Burke Society."

He prefers to speak of the Edmund Burke Society as a group that was formed because "there was no conservative organization in Toronto." He calls it "a stage in the development of some Conservatives in this city."

He would like to see those Conservatives adopt his views on immigration.

"Toronto has taken the brunt of immigration," he said. "It's getting worse because each year the people coming from the Third World are getting more (in number).

"I think many people are worried about the changes in their neighborhood that's come about as a result of liberal immigration policy."

Mr. Fromm says he could live with immigration based on a quota system "designed in such a way that we wouldn't be upsetting the ethnic balance."

Roughly, following 1971 census figures, that means 45 per cent of future immigrants should come from the British Isles, 26 per cent from France, between 5 and 7 per cent "from Italy, Germany, Middle Europe," and about 2 per cent from Japan, Mr. Fromm said.

"This wouldn't be a racially discriminatory policy. It'd say we won't be having the tension that's being created by the changes....I think this would be a real winner."

Mr. Fromm, a Catholic of French-Canadian and German origin, dodged questions about Jewish people and religions other than his own. "I'm not really very interested in them. I really don't have any great feelings for them."

He said he was "absolutely opposed" to the immigration of 50,000 boat people because "in those numbers it would add to the racial problems and would upset the racial balance."

He has "a better solution:" Send them to "a number of deserted islands off the Philippines and Indonesia which, with international money, could make homes and cottage industries."

As a teacher, he says he is interested in gifted children and more money should be spent on programs for them. Mr. Fromm was a Metro Separate School Board trustee from 1976 to 1978.

[The Globe and Mail]

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It's up to you to know the safe way to handle any machinery, equipment or potentially dangerous materials in your workplace. It's up to your employer to provide you with the information and supervision so that you and your fellow workers can work safely.

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Ontario Ministry of Labour

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Robert G. Elgie, MD, Minister

William Davis, Premier

Canadian ... Aiding ...

By Keri Sweetman

When you make a $1.2-million sale to India, you really work for your money.

Just ask the people at Ottawa's Systemhouse Ltd.

Later this week, the company will ship two computerized mapping systems to the Indian army and navy, wrapping up 18 months of negotiations and a journey through what may be the world's most tangled bureaucratic jungle.

The sale is Systemhouse's first to India and "it's been unique, to say the least," says vice-president of development Dough Seaborn.

"The customs and the culture of the country, the way of doing business, are very different from ours," he explained.

Canadian bureaucratic red-tape is nothing in comparison to India's.

"There's inordinate degrees of approval for all levels of a decision and it's very hard to find the decision-maker."

The sophisticated 'auto-

Dramas on ... released

This book of four dance dramas was released at a formal function on February 11th at the Mylapore Fine Arts Society by Sri T.S. Parthasarathy, secretary of the Madras Music Academy S.Gautamadasa, Deputy High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in India was the chief guest and received the first copy of the book. This was followed by a full-scale performance of **'Sangamitra'** one of the dance dramas from the book, for over two hours by Dhananjayan and Shanta and their Bharata Kalanjali troupe.

Indtroducing the book and its airshor, Prof V.Subramaniam, T.S.Parthasarathy said that Prof.Subramaniam has filled a centuries old gap in India's creative arts through his dance dramas on Budhist themes in Carnatic music. Budhist literature was rich in such themes. Subramaniam's work was pioneering and has combined tradition and modernity using Western dramatic techniques with Carnatic musical idiom through padams and varnams.

Sanghamitra was presented in full soon after the release by Narada Gana Sabha. On both occasions the performance was superb and audience response was spontaneously warm - to the point of raving appreciation.

Sanghamitra is an effective drama of continuous confrontation between the great emperor Asoka and his daughter Meghaveni later named Sanghamitra. In the first scene, Asoka mad with his victory over Kalinga, celebrates with eclat, and offers one of the looted ornaments to his daughter.Meghaveni, angrily refuses the gift, accusing her father of mindless cruel-

Canadian computer
Aiding India's defence

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The sophisticated 'automap' equipment will fly most of the way to its destination but will travel the last leg by truck to Dehradun, a town in northern India on the foothills of the Himalayas.

The route, although paved, will be crowded with people on foot, on bicycles and in oxcarts. The truck carrying the computers, terminals and digital drafting boards will take at least six hours to travel the last 160 kilometres - if nothing gets in the way.

Three Systemhouse employees, including project manager Pat Healey, will spend most of the summer in Dehradun, which is the cartography (map-making) centre for both the Indian army and navy. The town has no telephone service and little in the way of modern amenities.

The automapping equipment will be used to produce topographical (surface) maps and hydrographic (ocean) charts of a large section of the country.

Since the system is entirely computerized, maps can be produced more quickly and accurately than by hand and with fewer draughtsmen.

"that's the major benefit," said Seaborn. "You need experienced draughtsmen to produce this kind of map and in developing countries, they're next to impossible to find."

Systemhouse, which specializes in putting together computer equipment and programs for a variety of purposes, has already sold several automap systems in Canada and around the world.

It beat out several large mapping competitors for the Indian work.

Australia, which has already purchased two of the basic systems, will open tenders shortly for $4-million worth of add-on equipment and Systemhouse is expected to be the favored bidder.

[The Ottawa Citizen]

Shastri Institute needs help

The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute was created by the joint action of the Governments of India and Canada over ten years ago. During this period it has actively pursued its mandate to improve our understanding of India by means of scholarships for university faculty and students, summer study programmes in India and Canada, and the sponsorship of a variety of cultural events. A concerted effort is now being made to expand the scope of the Institute's activities by promoting Canadian Studies in India through fellowships to Indian scholars and students wishing to add this dimension to their expertise.

Needless to say, these activities are expensive and, in spite of generous support from the Governments of Canada and India as well as Canadian universities, the pressures of inflation are making it more and more difficult for us to meet our commitments. We have, therefore, created two new categories of membership which will allow individuals to assist the Institute financially and at the same time allow us to keep them fully informed about the Institute and its development. These categories are **Individual Patron** with an annual fee of $100.00 or more, and **Individual Member** with an annual fee of $25.00. A category of **Corporate Membership** with an annual fee of $1,000.00 or more has also been established. All contributions are tax deductible.

We hope you will assist us in our efforts to introduce India, in all of its multiple religious, historical, and cultural facets, to Canada, and to promote a knowledge and understanding of Canada in India by becoming a Patron or Member of the Institute. Your support will be specially gratifying to us because, as a member of the Indian community in Canada, you are in an ideal position to judge the worth of our endeavours.

The Head Office of the Institute moved from McGill University during the past summer, and is now settled into the excellent facilities provided by the University of Calgary. Information about the various programmes, scholars successful in the fellowship competition, etc. will be provided upon request. Enquiries are welcomed, and should be addressed to:

Mrs. Kay de la Ronde,
Executive Director,
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Dramas on Buddhist themes released

This book of four dance dramas was released at a formal function on February 11th at the Mylapore Fine Arts Society by Sri T.S. Parthasarathy, secretary of the Madras Music Academy. S. Gautamadasa, Deputy High Commissioner for Sri Lanka in India was the chief guest and received the first copy of the book. This was followed by a full-scale performance of 'Sangamitra' one of the dance dramas from the book, for over two hours by Dhananjayan and Shanta and their Bharata Kalanjali troupe.

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Sanghamitra is an effective drama of continuous confrontation between the great emperor Asoka and his daughter Meghaveni later named Sanghamitra. In the first scene, Asoka, mad with his victory over Kalinga, celebrates with eclat, and offers one of the looted ornaments to his daughter Meghaveni, angrily refuses the gift, accusing her father of mindless cruelty. Confused Asoka cries out he does not know who is friend and who is foe when a heavenly voice tells him that his yearning for empire and wealth is his enemy. Asoka then gradually embraces Buddhism.

In the second scene he is represented as inactive with no worlds to conquer. His daughter, Meghaveni, worried and puzzled, brings Bhikku Sangharaja to consult and advise. Sangharaja explains that new worlds can be conquered for Dhamma by propaganda. Asoka is immediately fired with the idea of Dhamma Vijaya and Meghaveni is happy. Asoka's orders for erecting pillars, inscribing Buddha's teachings and sending missions are carried out enthusiastically.

In the third scene, a smug Asoka is flattered by the Bhikkus into accepting the title of "Mahadayaka" or the greater giver. Suddenly Meghaveni objects and explains that he has not gifted his really dearest possession, his daughter, to the Sangha. Asoka pleads against this but is finally persuaded by a divine voice. She is renamed **Sanghamitra** then and Asoka receives the title Mahadayaka.

The kaleidoscopic change of emotions and the very intensity of each emotion or Rasa demanded the best choreography and coordination and the achievement of all this to the highest standards is a permanent tribute to Dhananjayan and Shanta. In terms of Western standards of tempo, continuity and vivacity of performance and Indian classical standards of Abhinaya (interpretation) and Nrutta Nrutya (rhythm and dance) it was one of the best dance dramas. The Dhananjayans have made a lasting contribution to the art of which they can be proud of.

The book Verra Kanya Vahini includes four dance dramas in each of which there is man-woman confrontation with the woman converting the man to the service of Buddhism. Apart from Sanghamitra, the other dance dramas are Vasavadatta, Krishnaveni and Rajya Sri.

With the full staging of Sanghamitra, seven of Subramaniam's nine dance-dramas have been staged in the last twelve years and two of them (the Tamil) Ambaplai and the Maya (Sanskrit) more than fifty times. This is a record in recent history of dance dramas, an elite classical medium of creative art.

Foreign aid resented

New Delhi, (UNI) Oceanographic scientists here have expressed concern at the Indian Government's move, to get from West Germany, a research vessel for dredging mineral nodules from the Ocean floor.

Under a recent agreement, Bonn will provide sophisticated equipment and build a research vessel for India to collect data of exploitable deposits.

Scientists fear that the decision to go in for West German technical assistance might hamper the development of Indian talent in the high technology area. Besides they feel that the research vessel could well be manufactured in India.

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Gala party hosted

By Dr. S. Sastri

A gala party, hosted by Pranati Sen Gupta and students of her cooking course, took place at Hillcrest High School on Saturday, April 11th.

It was actually a day-long cultural event with a full programme of films, slides, Indian dancing and a wide variety of Indian dishes prepared by Mrs. Sen Gupta and her students. The day was ushered in with a sustaining breakfast consisting of light-as-a-feather mango muffins, meat samosas, chutney and tea. Guests had a chance to socialize and examine an interesting display consisting of different types of Indian groceries and books on Indian cookery and culture. After finishing breakfast, the gathering proceeded to the auditorium to hear a word of welcome from the hostess.

The programme was very capably chaired by Mrs. Dia Singh who first introduced Mr. Gillett, an official associated with the Ottawa Board of Education. Mr. Gillett commented on the courses offered by the Continuing Education Division of the Ottawa Board of Education, mentioning that many thousands of students have taken advantage of the programme.

Dr. and Mrs. Murphy then showed a lovely selection of slides taken during a visit to India in 1978. Guests were treated to magnificent views of the Taj Mahal, Fatch-pur Sikri and South Indian temples to name just a few. Also memorable were scenes of children at play, dhobis laying out their laundry to dry and garden vistas. The slides and the trip were enthusiastically described by Mrs. Hallie Murphy who exuded a fascination and love for India.

The next item on the programme was a selection of Indian classical dances performed by Miss Sheila Rao, an exponent of the Bharatanatyam style of dancing. Miss Rao was introduced by her brother, Mr. Rao, who clearly outlined for the audience the characteristics of Indian classical dance. The audience was enchanted with Miss Rao's dancing ability and her beautiful costume.

Two documentary films from the High Commission of India rounded up the programme. The first film, "A Spicy Story", illustrated India's wealth in spices and it was particularly interesting for students of cookery to see how spices such as pepper, chilies, cardamom etc. are cultivated and harvested. The second film demonstrated in vivid colour the intriguing art of "Rangoli". Rangoli involves fashioning traditional designs out of coloured flours, powders and various types of beans to celebrate important occasions in the Indian household.

The programme was then brought to a close by a vote of thanks by Mrs. Dorothy Seabrook. Awaiting in the cafeteria was delicious snacks consisting of plantain kababs, hot chutney and tea. Presently, the food for the main meal of the day was prepared. (Students had earlier prepared a dish of their choice in readiness for the party).

The luncheon consisted of an incredible display of the following dishes: vegetable pullao, spinach dal, broccoli cutlets, bean salad, fish rolls, Bombay-style fish, Tandoori chicken, chicken dopayre and sweet chutney.

When the guest were through with the first course, the following luscious desserts were presented: carrot halwa, kamla khir, alloo pitha and mango cheese cake. The meal was all the more remarkable for the fact that most of the students preparing the dishes had only a slight acquaintance with Indian ingredients and food preparation methods.

This describes just one of many endeavours conceived and executed by Mrs. Pranati Sen Gupta who has done so much to promote understanding and appreciation of India and her culture.

Book review

The sacred and the secular

By Prof. V. Subramaniam

The Sacred and the Secular in India's Performing Arts, edited by Professor V. Subramaniam (Ashish Publishing House, New Delhi) is a pioneering work on Indian art and a most unusual tribute to the great Kalayogi Ananda Coomaraswamy. It sets out to dilute and cut down to size the Kalayogi's famous dictum that art is religion and religion is art. It does this successfully in two ways. Professor Subramaniam shows in his first four chapters of socio-historical analysis that the secular eroticism and patron-client relations of the ancient Tamils formed the basis of Bhakti and the religious sustenance of the arts both emotionally by the artists and institutionally by the temple. Other contributors discuss topics such as the institution of Devadasis (Ann Marie Gaston) or the purely secular basis and practice of aspects of Hindustani music such as Ghazal and Thumri (Premlata Sharma, Jaidev Singh etc). In another pioneering chapter Professor V.K. Chari convincingly establishes that classical Sanskrit aesthetics was concerned with secular aesthetic experience for its own sake and not as a path to Moksha.

Professor Subramaniam's socio-historical argument is central to the thesis that the religious basis of Hindu art has been mistakenly overdone by Ananda Coomaraswamy mainly from the evidence of religious texts without any interest in socio-historical and literary evidence. Subramaniam's thesis is that, far from being based solely on religion or Bhakti, Hindu performing arts were based on a continuous interaction of the Sacred and the Secular in which the latter was in fact slightly more important. As a considered refutation of the highly publicized Coomaraswamy thesis, the book is the most important, daring and pioneering work on Indian art published in connection with the Coomaraswamy centenary.

Urdu UP second language

Lucknow, (UNI) - Urdu will be accorded the status of second language of the most populous Indian state of Uttar Pradesh before the end of this year.

Disclosing this at the annual general meeting of the Uttar Pradesh Urdu Akademi here, the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Vishwanath Pratap Singh, said that the State cabinet had decided to extend the facilities for taking oath in Urdu by legislators.

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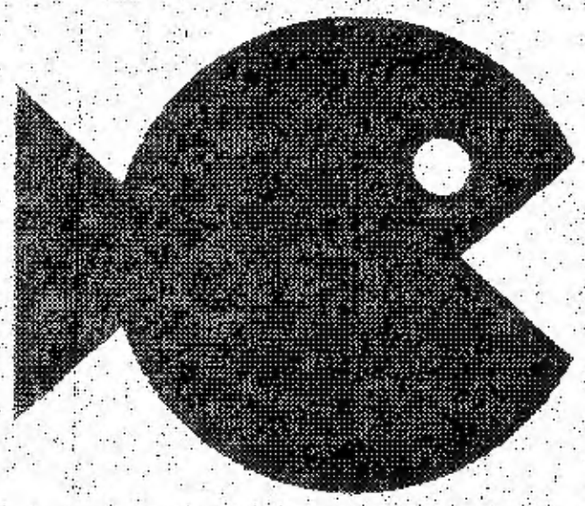

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Tourism to take off

Bombay, (UNI) - Kerala has drawn up master plan for tourism based on travel circuit concept of the central Government, according to V. Purushothaman, State Minister for Health and Tourism.

Addressing travel agents and tour operators at the meeting organised by the Union Government's tourist office in the city, the Minister said tourism was poised for a take-off in Kerala. What is now required is to provide infrastructure for its further development.

The initial efforts in this direction were to increase the number of hotel rooms all over the State. The Kerala Tourism Development Corporation is adding another 350 rooms, including 250 for budget tourists. Some of these rooms have been completed.

Mr. Purushothaman said the Government was encouraging private sector also to build tourist hotels all over the State. The Government was also planning to set up a series of motels. Three of them would be coming up shortly at Kottarakkara, Trivandrum and Kottayam.

INDIA TO ASSIST SUDAN IN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

New Delhi, (UNI) - Sudan has welcomed the Indian offer to help that country in a number of fields of industrial development.

The Indian offer was made when the Indian Deputy Industry Minister P.A. Sangma, attended a meeting on industrial cooperation recently in Khartoum.

The meeting was sponsored by United Nations Industrial Development Organisation.

KITCHEN

By Pranati SenG

Fresh fruits are very exp
year. Have you noticed the
days? It is too early for own
this delicious sweet chutne
canned and dried fruits.

The flavour improves after
the refrigerator.

Sweet Chutney

1 large can (28oz.) peaches
pieces.
1 can (19 oz.) pears - drained
½ cup raisins
½ cup chopped pitted prune
¾ cup brown sugar
¾ cup cider vinegar (or sligh
½ cup finely chopped onion
⅛ cup chopped preserved gi
½ to ½ tsp. salt
1¼ tbsp. curry powder
¼ tsp. dry mustard (ground)

Drain the peaches and the
large saucepan. Add sugar, v
powder and mustard into s
simmer for 35 minutes. Stir
prunes and continue cooking
minutes. Chill before serving
It may be stored in refrige

New emplo scheme in

Trivandrum, (UNI) - The Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board, an agent of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) plans to bring more than 1,000 panchayats (village councils) under its massive employment drive.

This is part of the KVIC's special employment scheme in which resources like clay, bamboo and banana fibre would be tapped to provide jobs to more than 130,000 people during the Sixth Five-Year Plan (1980-85).

Among the units set up by the KVIC is a cottage match unit at Chenganacherry, in Kottayam district. It is run by a voluntary organisation and is aided by the commission.

The Chenganacherry unit stands out as a model with its annual production crossing the 12,500-dollar mark.

The Malanadu Development Society run by the

More uraniu deposits foun

New Delhi, (UNI) - Uranium deposits to meet the requirements of India's nuclear power programme have been discovered within the country.

Intensive surveys and explorations conducted by the Minerals Division of the Department of Atomic Energy have resulted in the finding of a number of uranium deposits in the States of Madhya Pradesh, uttar Pradesh and Karnataka.

Three additional uranium mines are also being opened in the eastern State of Bihar and two more uranium mills are to be set up, in addition to the existing one in the State, the Minister of State for Science and Technology, C.P.N. Singh, told Parliament.

The minister said the deposits were being mined

KITCHEN KORNER

By Pranati SenGupta

Fresh fruits are very expensive at this time of the year. Have you noticed the price of tomatoes these days? It is too early for own Canadian fruits. However, this delicious sweet chutney can be prepared using canned and dried fruits.

The flavour improves after storing it for a few days in the refrigerator.

Sweet Chutney

1 large can (28oz.) peaches - drained and cut into large pieces.
1 can (19 oz.) pears - drained and cut into large pieces
¼ cup raisins
½ cup chopped pitted prunes
¼ cup brown sugar
¾ cup cider vinegar (or slightly more)
½ cup finely chopped onion
¼ cup chopped preserved ginger
½ to ½ tsp. salt
1¼ tbsp. curry powder
½ tsp. dry mustard (ground).

Drain the peaches and the pears, add the syrup to a large saucepan. Add sugar, vinegar, onion, ginger, curry powder and mustard into syrup. Bring to a boil and simmer for 35 minutes. Stir in peaches, pears, raisins, prunes and continue cooking over low heat for another 40 minutes. Chill before serving. Makes about 5 cups.

It may be stored in refrigerator for up to 3 weeks.

New employment scheme in Kerala

Trivandrum, (UNI) - The Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board, an agent of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) plans to bring more than 1,000 panchayats (village councils) under its massive employment drive.

This is part of the KVIC's special employment scheme in which resources like clay, bamboo and banana fibre would be tapped to provide jobs to more than 150,000 people during the Sixth Five-Year Plan (1980-85).

Among the units set up by the KVIC is a cottage match unit at Chenganacherry, in Kottayam district. It is run by a voluntary organisation and is aided by the commission.

The Chenganacherry unit stands out as a model with its annual production crossing the 12,500-dollar mark.

The Malanadu Development Society run by the Bishop's house of Kanjirapally has a host of projects like silkworm rearing, beekeeping and honey processing and cane, bamboo, oil, cottage match and fibre units in Quilon, Kottayam and Idukki districts.

Attached to the Kanjirapally centre is an all-women radio assembling unit, which was formed with a 625 dollars share capital of which 400 dollars was a bank loan.

In 1965, palm and banana fibre were used only as coarse twine. Sister Trisama George used the fibre to make fancy articles like table mats, purses and bags.

Beginning as a small pilot project at a church society at Ernakulam, it has spread to all parts of the State providing jobs to nearly 55,000 people and topping the list of village industries.

More uranium deposits found

New Delhi, (UNI) - Uranium deposits to meet the requirements of India's nuclear power programme have been discovered within the country.

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Three additional uranium mines are also being opened in the eastern State of Bihar and two more uranium mills are to be set up, in addition to the existing one in the State, the Minister of State for Science and Technology, C.P.N. Singh, told Parliament.

The minister said the deposits were being mined to the extent of about 67,000 tonnes.

The country hoped to achieve a target of generating atomic power to the extent of 10,000 mw with additional capacities being formulated in the Sixth Plan period (1980-85) he said.

Increase in Iraqi trade

New Delhi, (UNI) - Over the years, India and Iraq have moved closer towards each other and developed not only a healthy relationship but also strengthened mutual trade and economic cooperation.

In the quest for partners in the third world countries for economic cooperation, Iraq considers India as the best bet because of India's industrial advancement.

With the change of government in India in January last year, there was a feeling in Iraq that a strong and stable nation would provide as sound guarantee for cooperation between the two countries. Since January, 1980, bilateral trade turnover has jumped to a record 1250 million dollars. Recently, the two countries signed a protocol agreeing further to increase the trade turnover.

LACTATION CAN BE INDUCED ARTIFICIALLY IN COWS

New Delhi, (UNI) - Barren cows can now be induced artificially to give milk.

The Indian National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) at Karnal, about 150 km north of Delhi, has established the economic benefits of artificial inducement of lactation in sterile cross-bred cows.

Dubai firm gets contract

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian Government has decided to award the 84.21 million-dollar contract for fabrication and installation of three oil well platforms at Bombay High to the Dubai firm, McDermott International.

In order to reach the planned rate at Bombay High of 12 million tonnes per annum by 1982-83, the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) had stipulated the target dates for the completion of platforms before the monsoon of 1982.

But the Dubai firm has agreed to set up temporary platforms to enable ONGC to drill during the monsoon of 1982. The ONGC had given the target dates keeping in view that drilling could be done through the monsoon.

The Indian Petroleum Minister, P.C. Sethi, told Parliament that the project was awarded to the Dubai firm after considering the tenders received from a West German company.

Mr. Sethi said ten parties had purchased documents on February 6, 1981. Finally, only two offers were received for fabrication and installation of the platforms.

Aid for oil pollution studies

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has proposed to seek United Nations Development Project (UNDP) assistance for carrying out studies on oil pollution in offshore areas, according to official sources.

Preliminary studies on the toxicity of crude oil have been carried out in consultation with the National Institute of Oceanography. At present, swuch studies are being carried out as part of the activity of the Institute of Petroleum Exploration of ONGC. In this regard, ONGC plans to seek the UNDP assistance. Details are being finalised.

More cooperation with Saudis

New Delhi, (UNI) - India and Saudi Arabia have decided to evolve a new relationship and expand areas of cooperation in the economic, industrial and technical fields.

Prince Saud al-Faisal, foreign minister of Saudi Arabia, who was here on a two-day visit, expressed the hope that collective action in the economic field between the two countries would be taken.

The two countries signed an agreement laying down the general framework and areas of cooperation, including joint ventures.

Another agreement for the loan of 106 million riyals (about 32 million dollars) for financing the Keol-Karo hydel projects in the eastern state of Bihar has also been signed. The Bihar hydel project envisages the construction of two earth dams across the north Karo river and the south Keol river and installation of power stations.

Earlier, Saudi Arabia had loaned 358 million riyals (about 100 million dollars) for financing the Srisailam and Nagarjunsagar power projects in Andhra Pradesh. India and Saudi Arabia also signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement aimed at encouraging investment and flow of capital, joint ventures and exchange of products between the two countries.

Cheap room cooler

New Delhi, (UNI) - With the onset of summer, the demand for domestic cooling system has begun to pick up.

Scientists of the Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) at Roorkee in Uttar Pradesh, India's thickly populated northern state, have found the cheapest and the most natural way to cool buildings without spending on electricity.

All you need is several empty jute bags. Used cement bags are good enough. Spread them closely on the terrace and see they are soaked with water all the time.

As the water evaporates the roof and then the rooms get cool.

CBRI says it works so well that Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) at Hardwar and the Punjab University in Chandigarh have gone in for this method.

An idea of the enormous cooling capacity of jute bags can be had from CBRI's finding that 1,000 gallons of water can produce 900 tonnes of refrigeration effect.

A one-tonne air-conditioner is needed to cool an average bedroom.

CBRI said the temperature inside the rooms came to 28.3 degrees (C) while the temperature outside was 41.7 degrees - a drop of 14.4 degrees (C).

CBRI said the cost of installation of jute bags, pipes and sprayers came to less than one dollar for every square metre of roof surface.

CBRI said the system can be made to work entirely on solar power by installing a solar pump to sprinkle water on the jute bags.

NEW LIGHTING SYSTEM AT DELHI AIRPORT TO ENSURE SAFE LANDING

New Delhi, (UNI) - A new runway lighting system to provide improved visual guidance to the pilot and to ensure safe landing of the aircraft during poor visibility has been installed at Delhi international airport.

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Industrialist Gujarati, 38, 5'-8", educated, legally divorced, very handsome invites correspondence from educated, cultured, open-minded, beautiful and classy ladies. Write with full details and returnable photographs essential. Box M-1784, The Canadian India Times.

Attractive, Talented girl, 24-30 from US/Canada for Montreal based and well settled South Indian Brahmin, 35. Send photo/particulars to M-1785, The Canadian India Times.

******

Handsome Gujarati Brahmin boy, 23, Canadian citizen, invites correspondence with returnable photograph. M-1786, The Canadian India Times.

******

Correspondence invited from tall, fair, beautiful, well educated, sports-minded girls in excellent health and family background; for tall, highly educated, handsome, well placed, North Indian, Canadian citizen, U.S. immigrant. Full particulars with photo appreciated first instance. No bars. M-1787, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match preferably in Canada for a divorced Rajput girl, 25, attractive, homely, M.A. Economics, working in States. Also for her younger brother, 23, graduate, extremely handsome, tall and athletic, working in India. Caste no bar. M-1737, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from a tall, professionally qualified young man for our duaghter, charming, pretty, 5'-3", 22, R.N. working. Well settled Arora family in Toronto. Caste no bar. M-1775, The Canadian India Times.

Professional match in late twenties for pretty, convent-educated girl from good family-presently teaching in Delhi. Contact brother at (416) 495-5481.

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A well settled doctor wants suitable match for his niece, 24, B.Ed., 5'-3" and very pretty. Presently she is in Montreal for a visit. U.S./Canadian immigrants need apply. Boy's merits main consideration. Please contact Dr. Dewan, 9017 Airlie, LaSalle, Quebec or Tel. 659-3103.

Mature lady with reasonable good looks seeks an educated and settled match in Canada or U.S. Age is 40 but looks like 25, looking for someone up to 42 or 43. Contact at (613) 237-2078.

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Fertilizer plant by non-residents

New Delhi, (UNI) - The world's largest single-stream fertiliser plant to come up in the Western Indian State of Gujarat is likely to be financed by non-resident Indians and non-resident investors.

The Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertiliser Company Limited (GNFC) undertaking the project has in the largest single equity, issue of 54.5 million dollars reserved 18.8 million dollars for offer to non-resident Indians and persons of Indian origin resident abroad and non-resident investors from oil-exporting developing countries with repatriation rights.

S.J. Coelho, Managing Director of GNFC, told newsmen on April 13 that the company hoped to receive "substantial response from non-reisdent Indians and others". The ground for optimism lay in the large number of enquiries concerning investment in this company made through the foreign branches of Indian banks by prospective investors, Mr. Coelho said.

Representatives of managers to the issue like the State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, H.L. Financial consultants and J.M. Financial and Investment Consultancy Services will be shortly visiting important centres in West Asia and Far East to identify likely investors and such funds for the company.

In the past too, several Indian companies have been able to tap investment funds from non-resident Indians.

Mr. Coelho listed several features which, according to him, are "attractive". First, the gestation period from the viewpoint of an investor is "minimum" as the plant is ready to start production by mid- 1981. The returns are assured and these are as high as 29.36 per cent from the start with tax benefits to the company.

The other factors likely to make the Company's capital issue popular with investors include early loan repayment obligation. With the commencement of loan repayments obligation after two years, it is expected that the company will generate substantial cash accruals. With these funds, together with internal resources that will be generated thereafter, the company would be in a position to trigger off substantial investments in diversification and expansion projects.

18 million enterprises listed

New Delhi, (UNI) - There are 18.39 million enterprises engaged in different economic activities besides crop production and plantation in India, excluding Assam.

The enterprises give employment to 51.70 million persons, according to provisional results of the economic census carried out last year.

Nearly 61.2 per cent of the enterprises are from rural areas and they account for 46.4 per cent of the total employment.

The non-agricultural enterprises form 91 per cent of all the enterprises and account for 94.5 per cent of total employment. As many as 58.9 per cent of the non-agricultural enterprises employing 44.3 per cent of the total number of persons usually working are in rural areas.

Among the agricultural enterprises other than crop production and plantations, 82.8 per cent are carried out without employing any hired workers. Of these, 87.9 per cent are in rural areas.

The economic census was taken mostly during March to October 1980 in different states and Union territories, along with the house-listing operations of 1981 population census. The provisional results of the economic census pertaining to 11 States and four Union territories were released in the last week of November 1980.

The economic census ascertained the structure, nature of activities and number of persons usually working in all the non-agricultural enterprises and selected agricultural enterprises. The agricultural enterprises included livestock production, agricultural services, hunting, trapping and game propagation, forestry and logging and fishing but did not cover crop production and plantations.

The non-agricultural enterprises included mining and quarrying, manufacture, trade, construction transport and services.

ASIAD work goes well

New Delhi, (UNI) - Work on the different projects of the 1982 Asian Games began belatedly last November, but is progressing according to schedule.

The most impressive progress was noted at the Games Village complex spread over a 65-acre plot at the Siri Fort area in South Delhi. The construction of 700 houses and related facilities like the auditorium and the cultural centre is expected to be completed by May 1982, six months ahead of the games.

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Andaman:Tourist attraction

New Delhi, (UNI) - Andaman and Nicobars, the cluster of Indian islands in the Bay of Bengal where tribal culture has hitherto remained undisturbed by modern civilisation is likely to be opened to tourists shortly.

The Indian government has accepted the proposal of the Island Administration that Indian Airlines introduce a flight between Bangkok, Madras and the Islands capital - Port Blair - to enable international tourists to visit the archipelago, according to an Indian economic daily.

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